

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SOE-02 AF-10
ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03
NASA-01 NEA-10 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 DOE-11
OES-07 SS-15 /136 W
-----023558 161815Z /46

O 161808Z JAN 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4781
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 00607

RW MESSAGE NO. 3

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM UR US
SUBJECT: US-USSR ARMS CONTROL WORKING GROUP ON
RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AND NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

REF: STATE 004624

1. IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO JANUARY 16 MEETING ON CHEMICAL
WEAPONS, AMBASSADOR LIKHATCHEV (HEAD OF USSR DELEGATION)
REQUESTED TO SEE AMBASSADOR FISHER (HEAD OF US DELEGA-
TION) PRIVATELY AND STATED THAT HE HAD JUST RECEIVED
INSTRUCTIONS TO URGE THE RESUMPTION OF TALKS ON RADIO-
LOGICAL WEAPONS (RW), WHICH HE INDICATED THEY WOULD
DESCRIBE AS "MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS INCLUDING RADIO-
LOGICAL WEAPONS". FISHER INQUIRED WHAT WAS SOVIET
POSITION ON THEIR SUGGESTION ON NEUTRON WEAPONS, POINTING
OUT THIS HAD LED TO TERMINATION OF PRIOR SERIES OF TALKS.
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LIKHATCHEV REPLIED THAT THIS POINT WOULD BE DEVELOPED
WHEN TALKS WERE RESUMED. FISHER REPLIED THAT WHILE US
WOULD BE GLAD TO HEAR SOVIET VIEWS ON ANY SUBJECT, THE US
IS NOT PREPARED TO BEGIN A NEW ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS ON
RW SO LONG AS SOVIETS INSIST ON INCLUDING "NEUTRON
WEAPON" IN RW CONTEXT. LIKHATCHEV THEN REQUESTED FISHER
SEEK ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS TO PERMIT START OF ROUND.

FISHER REPLIED THAT HIS PREVIOUS ANSWER WAS PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS BUT IN VIEW OF LIKHATCHEV'S REQUEST HE WOULD BRING MATTER TO ATTENTION OF WASHINGTON.

2. COMMENT: IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS (REFTEL), FISHER WILL REPEAT POSITION THAT US SIDE IS PREPARED TO MEET WITH THE SOVIETS ON RW BUT WILL NOT AGREE TO RESUME FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS UNLESS THE SOVIETS INDICATE THAT ALL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICES, WHICH WOULD INCLUDE THE REDUCED BLAST/ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPON, WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM THE DEFINITION OF RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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